

**REMARKS**

This response is being filed in reply to the Office Action of October 3, 2003. For the following reasons, this Application should be considered in condition for allowance and the case passed to issue.

Claim 2 was initially indicated as allowable but the indicated allowability of this claim was withdrawn in the latest Office Action in view of the newly discovered reference to Ohmori. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woo et al. Claims 2 and 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woo and further in view of Ohmori. As detailed below, the reference to Woo et al. is disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), so these rejections should all be reconsidered and withdrawn and the case passed to issue.

Under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), subject matter which was prior art under former 35 U.S.C. §103 via 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is now disqualified as prior art against the claimed invention if that subject matter and the claimed invention “were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.” In this instance, the main reference relied upon by the Examiner, Woo et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,507,123, is commonly owned with the present Application and qualifies as prior art only under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

As required by the MPEP, the statement concerning common ownership should be clear and conspicuous in order for the Examiner to quickly notice the statement. Hence, Applicant hereby provides the following:

**STATEMENT CONCERNING COMMON OWNERSHIP**

**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/919,943 and U.S. Patent 6,507,123 were, at the time the invention of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/919,943 was made, owned by Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.**

As stated in the MPEP, this statement alone is sufficient evidence to disqualify the Woo et al. patent from being used in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) against the claims of the present Application.

Since the Woo et al. reference was relied upon for each of the rejections of the claims, and the statement of common ownership overcomes these rejections, all the claims should now be considered allowable over the art of record.

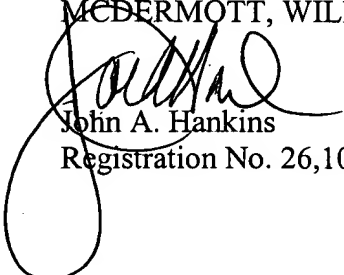
In light of the remarks above and the statement of common ownership, this Application should be considered in condition for allowance and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the Application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite the prosecution of the Application.

09/919,943

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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